

### **Welcome....**

To Tracie Howells who has been co-opted onto the Council to fill the seat vacated by the resignation of George Humphries. Tracie will be well known to many of you and Members feel that she will be a valuable asset to the Council and the community.

### **Cycle Dirt Track**

Congratulations to Richard Bailey and the team of helpers for all the work they have done to produce an excellent facility for the young people in the Parish. The track is being well used and adds an additional activity to those already available,

For the record the cost of providing the track and fencing was in the region of £3,000 and a grant to meet that cost was made by North Shropshire District Council. It was possible to keep the cost to that level by the amount of volunteer work carried out in its construction.

### **Traffic Lights**

The Council has received a number of complaints about the long delays at the lights at peak periods. Following meetings between Councillors and representatives of Shropshire Council's Highways Department, we are pleased to report that they have agreed to take action to improve the traffic flow by carrying out some major development work during the coming year.

### **Crossing**

Members have been concerned for some time about the difficulty in crossing the A53 by the shops, particularly for the elderly and those in wheel chairs or with young children.

Strong representation has been made to Shropshire Council to no avail. It appears that this does not rate as a high enough

priority and it seems that unless there is a serious accident, we are unlikely to get a crossing

### **Pathways**

The Council has secured grants from the Police and Shropshire Council to enable hard surface pathways to be put in for access to the Children's Play Area and the Youth Pod. This will improve access to the sites particularly in the winter. Quotations are being obtained and it is hoped that the work will be completed before the end of this financial year.

### **Poynton Rd. /Recreation Ground Hedge**

For some time there has been concern about children making holes in this hedge and then running directly on to the road. There have been several near misses as motorists are unaware of the problem. Every time a hole is blocked the repairs are removed or another hole is made. Discussions have taken place between Council Members and representatives of the Police, Shropshire Council and the Diocese who own the land in an effort to find a solution. It seems that it may be necessary to remove the whole hedge and replace it with some form of fencing. To do this the Council will need the permission of the Diocese and will have to secure planning consent.

### **Dates for your Diary**

Adrian Brown and Frances Medley will be holding a Councillors' Surgery in the Village Hall on Saturday January 30<sup>th</sup>. 10.00am to noon and the next Council meeting is on Tuesday February 9<sup>th</sup>. at 7.00pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings and take the opportunity to discuss Parish matters with the Councillors.

## **Security**

In the responses to questions in the Parish Plan recently conducted in the Parish, concerns about anti-social behaviour, vandalism and petty crime in the area around Church Street and the Village Hall featured highly. This has been given careful consideration by Members and discussions have taken place with the police and Shropshire Council.

The Council has now decided that the solution is to erect a CCTV camera to monitor the area. Shropshire Council has agreed to manage the scheme free of charge but the Parish Council will be responsible for the purchase and maintenance of the equipment. Further consultation has to take place and this will be carried out over the next few weeks. Members hope that there will be public support for this action and that it will create a safer environment.

## **Precept**

The precept is the amount of money that the Parish Council gets from Shropshire Council to provide local services, which is then added to the Council Tax bill.

After detailed discussion it has been decided to seek an additional four thousand pounds to enable the Council to continue to provide and improve the service it offers.

This year, among other things the following projects have successfully completed: The Parish Plan; Wem Road lighting project; adoption of the Children's Play Area; the Cycle Dirt Track; setting up and running a Council web site; Floral Gateways; a Village Fun Day: a full tree inspection; replacement of the Burial Ground Hedge with metal fencing and major improvements in the Moat Area. The Council has also achieved the 'Power

of Well Being' and is hoping to be recognised as a Quality Council.

These developments have been achieved by careful budgeting, accessing a range of grants and volunteer help by Councillors and many local residents.

The developments have increased maintenance and insurance costs and new projects are in the pipe line, including the CCTV camera, footpaths to the play area and an upgrade of the car park.

The planned increase in the precept will add an additional 50p per month to the average household's council tax and Members hope you will feel that you are getting value for money

## **Your Councillors**

Simon Jones, (Chairman), 10, River Gardens

Jill Manley, (Vice Chairman), 67, White Lodge Park

Richard Bailey, 1, Wytheford Road

David Baldwin, 12, White Lodge Park

Stewart Dodd, 71, Glebelands

Sue Dove, 3, Erdington Close

Tracie Howells, 104, Glebelands

John Kennedy, Ivy Court Shrewsbury Rd.

Frances Medley, 18, Pinewood Road

Robert Pinches, Park House.

Dave Roberts, 15, Birch Avenue.

Members are always happy to discuss Council activities with members of the public and all Councillors can be contacted via the Parish Clerk:

Jack Wilson, 6, Primrose Drive, Shrewsbury. Telephone 01743 236810

Email: [shawburypcclerk@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:shawburypcclerk@tiscali.co.uk)

COUNCIL WEB SITE

**[www.shawbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.shawbury-pc.gov.uk)**